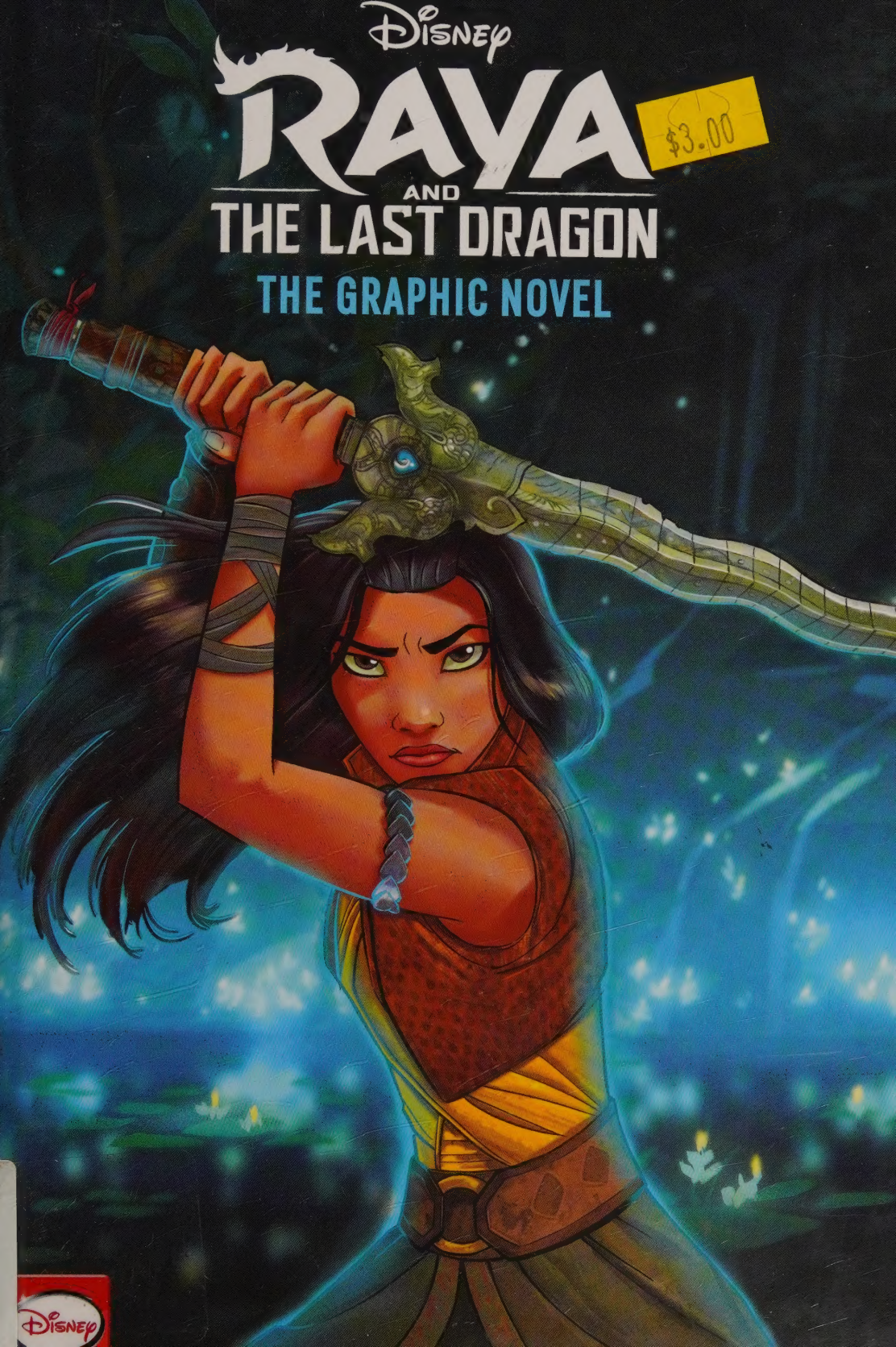
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AND
THE LAST DRAGON
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL
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Random House New York
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Disney

RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

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MEET THE CHARACTERS

RAYA

Raya is a proud Guardian of the Dragon Gem, a title she holds alongside her beloved father, Chief Benja of Heart. Her world is turned upside down when the Gem is broken and her father is turned to stone. Now on a mission to save the world, she's grown up to be a resilient warrior whose wit is as sharp as her blade. The only one she trusts is her loyal companion Tuk Tuk.

TUK TUK

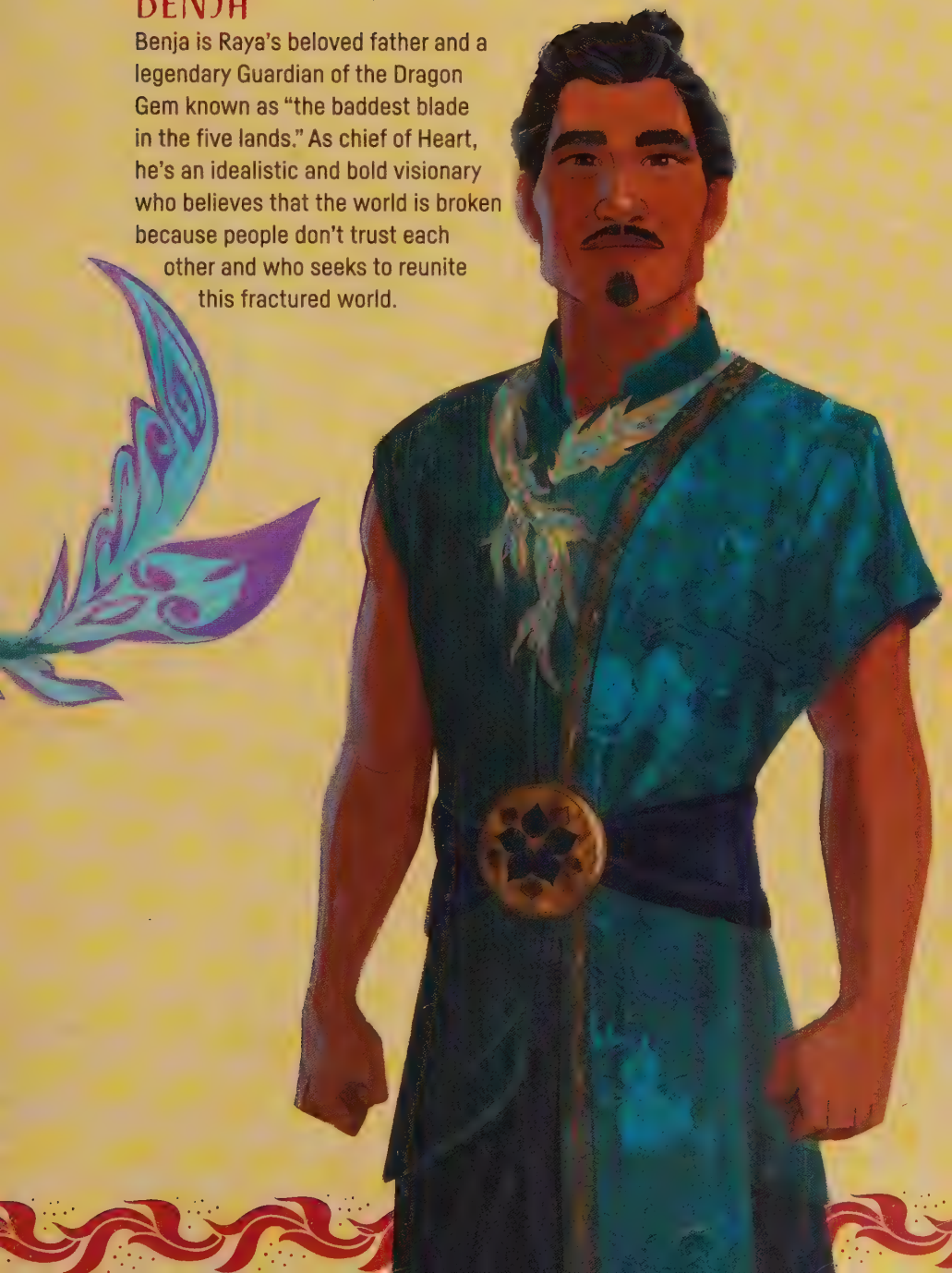
Part pill bug, part pug, part high-speed off-road vehicle, and all adorable, Tuk Tuk has been Raya's best friend since she could hold him in the palm of her hand. Now they are both grown, and Tuk Tuk is Raya's faithful, gigantic steed.

SISU

Sisu, short for Sisudatu, is the last dragon of Kumandra. Legends say she's a divine water being of unspeakable beauty and unstoppable magic, but what Raya finds instead is a funny, self-deprecating dragon who sees herself as the perennial C student. Now she must learn to become the dragon of legend if she is to save the world with Raya.

BENJA

Benja is Raya's beloved father and a legendary Guardian of the Dragon Gem known as "the baddest blade in the five lands." As chief of Heart, he's an idealistic and bold visionary who believes that the world is broken because people don't trust each other and who seeks to reunite this fractured world.



NAMAARI

Brilliant, calculating, and a formidable warrior, Namaari is Raya's unrelenting nemesis. She is the daughter of the chief of Fang and is determined to do whatever it takes to protect her people. However, down deep, she holds a secret love for dragons.

BOUN

A precocious street kid from Tail who's always up for a business deal, Boun is an adult in a child's body, capable and self-sufficient. He is the self-styled owner, manager, chef, and captain of his boat, the *Shrimporium*. Deep down, he's a vulnerable child who lost his parents to the Druun.

TONG

Though Tong still looks like the huge, gruff, fierce Spine warrior he once was, he is now a lonely woodsman after losing his entire village to Druun. With his elevated speech and penchant for watching out for little ones, he is equal parts severity and softness. He is truly a gentle giant.

NOI & THE ONGIS

Part monkey and part catfish, the three Ongis are resourceful con artists from the trading port of Talon. They do everything together, including raise a two-year-old toddler named Noi. She leads their hustle, distracting passersby with her cuteness while the Ongis rob them blind.

LAND OF KUMANDRA

FANG: Home of Namaari and her mother, Chief Virana, Fang is a nation of fierce warriors and battle cats. Where other clans succumbed to the Druun, Fang thrived with cleverness and determination.

HEART: Home of Raya and Tuk Tuk. Heart is a natural island connected to the rest of the world by the Heart Bridge, built by Chief Benja. This is where the Dragon Gem has been guarded for hundreds of years.

ALON: The center of this land is alon Port, a market floating on the ater. Here, visitors and travelers om the five lands can find food nd goods, but also hustlers and on artists.

SPINE: A remote, isolated land, Spine doesn't welcome visitors. Its central fortress is surrounded by walls lined with bamboo spikes and giant snowy mountains.

TAIL: Far from the water, this isolated desert land is where the last dragon found her retreat after she blasted the Druun away. Shipwrecks and the dockyard prove that water once played an essential role in local life.

"KUMANDRA. THIS IS WHAT WE USED TO BE..."
"... WHEN OUR LAND WAS WHOLE AND WE LIVED HARMONIOUSLY ALONGSIDE DRAGONS-- MAGICAL CREATURES WHO BROUGHT US WATER AND RAIN AND PEACE. IT WAS A PARADISE."
"BUT THEN THE DRUUN CAME. THEY CONSUMED LIFE AND TURNED EVERYONE THEY TOUCHED TO STONE."
"THE DRAGONS FOUGHT FOR US THE BEST THEY COULD, BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH."
"THAT'S WHEN THE MIGHTY SISUDATU, THE LAST DRAGON, CONCENTRATED ALL HER MAGIC INTO A GEM AND BLASTED THE DRUUN AWAY."
"EVERYONE WHO WAS TURNED TO STONE CAME BACK... EXCEPT THE DRAGONS."
"ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF SISU WAS HER GEM. IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN THIS BIG INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT WHEN HUMANITY UNITED OVER HER SACRIFICE..."
"... BUT INSTEAD THEY ALL FOUGHT TO POSSESS THE LAST REMNANT OF DRAGON MAGIC."
"BORDERS WERE DRAWN. KUMANDRA DIVIDED. WE ALL BECAME ENEMIES. AND THE GEM HAD TO BE HIDDEN."

"BUT THAT'S NOT HOW THE WORLD BROKE. NOPE. THAT DIDN'T TRULY HAPPEN UNTIL FIVE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, WHEN I CAME INTO THE STORY."
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S TRYING TO BE CLEVER.
ALL RIGHT, TUK TUK, LET'S SHOW 'EM WHAT CLEVER REALLY LOOKS LIKE.
SWIIISH
SWIIISH
SWIIISH
ROLLING DOWN THE HALLWAY, TUK TUK TRIGGERS ALL THE TRAPS, AND...
THAT WAS AWESOME. GIMME SOME SHELL.

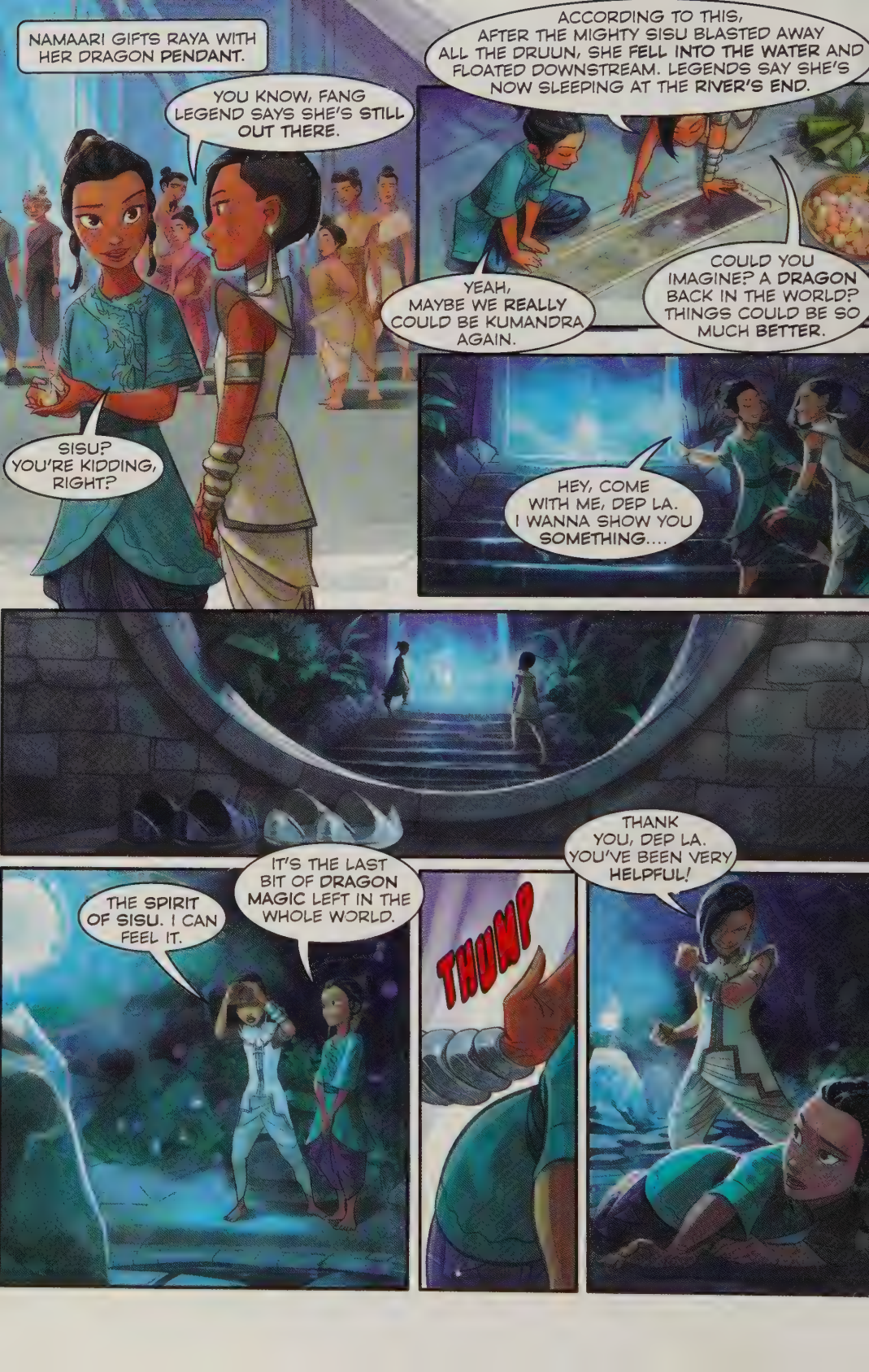
CHIEF BENJA. I KNOW IT'S YOUR JOB TO TRY TO STOP ME, BUT YOU WON'T.
DON'T MISTAKE SPIRIT FOR SKILL, YOUNG ONE. I PROMISE YOU WILL NOT SET FOOT ON THE DRAGON GEM'S INNER CIRCLE...
NOT EVEN A TOE!
THAK
THAK
SWISSH
BOOP.

LIKE I SAID, NOT EVEN ONE FOOT ON THE INNER CIRCLE. YOU LOST, RAYA.
DID I?
I PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE SAID TWO FEET.
DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP TOO MUCH, CHIEF BENJA. YOU GAVE IT YOUR BEST.
I WON'T. AND IT'S EITHER "FATHER" OR "BA" TO YOU.
YOU DID GOOD, DEWDROP. YOU PASSED THE TEST.
WOW. THE SPIRIT OF SISU...
FOR GENERATIONS, OUR FAMILY HAS SWORN TO PROTECT THE GEM. TODAY YO WILL JOIN THA LEGACY.
RAYA, PRINCESS OF HEART, MY DAUGHTER. YOU ARE NOW A GUARDIAN OF THE DRAGON GEM.

ATER...
ANYONE HOPING TO STEAL THE DRAGON GEM NOW HAS TO FACE THE FURY OF THE TWO BADDEST BLADES IN ALL THE LANDS.
I'M GLAD YOU FEEL PREPARED, DEWDROP, BECAUSE THE OTHER LANDS ARE ON THEIR WAY HERE AS WE SPEAK.
I'M READY. I KNOW EXACTLY HOW WE'LL STOP THEM...
FIRST: TAIL. A SWELTERING DESERT WITH SNEAKY MERCENARIES WHO FIGHT DIRTY.
SECOND: TALON. A FLOATING MARKET FAMOUS FOR FAST DEALS AND FIGHTERS WITH EVEN FASTER HANDS.
THIRD: SPINE. A FRIGID BAMBOO FOREST GUARDED BY EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE WARRIORS AND THEIR GIANT AXES.
FOURTH: FANG, OUR FIERCEST ENEMY. A NATION PROTECTED BY ANGRY ASSASSINS... AND THEIR EVEN ANGRIER CATS.
SO WE'RE GONNA NEED CROSSBOWS. AND CATAPULTS...
HOW ABOUT... SHRIMP PASTE FROM TAIL, LEMONGRASS FROM TALON, BAMBOO SHOOTS FROM SPINE, CHILIES FROM FANG, AND PALM SUGAR FROM HEART?
WE'LL POISON THEM?
NO, WE'RE NOT GOING TO POISON THEM, AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIGHT THEM.
WE'RE GOING TO SHARE A MEAL WITH THEM. I INVITED THEM.
BUT THEY'RE OUR ENEMIES.

THEY ARE ONLY OUR ENEMIES BECAUSE THEY THINK THE DRAGON GEM MAGICALLY BRINGS US PROSPERITY.
THAT'S RIDICULOUS. IT DOESN'T DO THAT.
THEY ASSUME IT DOES, JUST LIKE WE ASSUME THINGS ABOUT THEM.
RAYA, THERE'S A REASON WHY EACH LAND IS NAMED AFTER A PART OF THE DRAGON. WE WERE ONCE UNIFIED HARMONIOUSLY AS ONE. KUMANDRA.
THAT'S ANCIENT HISTORY, BA.
BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE.
LISTEN, IF WE DON'T STOP AND LEARN TO TRUST ONE ANOTHER AGAIN, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE TEAR EACH OTHER APART. THIS ISN'T THE WORLD I WANT YOU TO LIVE IN.
I BELIEVE WE CAN BE KUMANDRA AGAIN. BUT SOMEONE HAS TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP.
TRUST ME.

PEOPLE OF TAIL, TALON, SPINE, AND FANG, WELCOME TO HEART. FOR FAR TOO LONG WE HAVE BEEN ENEMIES.
BUT TODAY IS A NEW DAY. TODAY WE CAN BE KUMANDRA ONCE MORE.
IT'S EASY TO PONTIFICATE ON KUMANDRA WHEN YOU HOLD THE MIGHTIEST WEAPON IN ALL THE LANDS.
THE GEM'S NOT A WEAPON. IT'S A SACRED RELIC.
I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY... WHO'S HUNGRY?
IT'S ALL RIGHT. GO AHEAD.
I'M NAMAARI. OF FANG.
HI, NAMAARI. I'M RAYA. IS THAT SISU?!
SORRY. I MIGHT BE A LITTLE BIT OF A DRAGON NERD.
HEY, I'M THE ONE WEARING THE SISU FAN NECKLACE.
COME ON. HAVE YOU EATEN YET?


NAMAARI GIFTS RAYA WITH HER DRAGON PENDANT.
YOU KNOW, FANG LEGEND SAYS SHE'S STILL OUT THERE.
SISU? YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
ACCORDING TO THIS, AFTER THE MIGHTY SISU BLASTED AWAY ALL THE DRUUN, SHE FELL INTO THE WATER AND FLOATED DOWNSTREAM. LEGENDS SAY SHE'S NOW SLEEPING AT THE RIVER'S END.
YEAH, MAYBE WE REALLY COULD BE KUMANDRA AGAIN.
COULD YOU IMAGINE? A DRAGON BACK IN THE WORLD? THINGS COULD BE SO MUCH BETTER.
HEY, COME WITH ME, DEP LA. I WANNA SHOW YOU SOMETHING....
THE SPIRIT OF SISU. I CAN FEEL IT.
IT'S THE LAST BIT OF DRAGON MAGIC LEFT IN THE WHOLE WORLD.
THUMP
THANK YOU, DEP LA. YOU'VE BEEN VERY HELPFUL!

RAYA FIGHTS BACK VALIANTLY, BUT FANG SOLDIERS SUDDENLY ENTER THE CHAMBER!
YOU WILL NOT SET FOOT ON THE GEM'S INNER CIRCLE!
CRACK
THE SOLDIERS OF THE OTHER LANDS SOON FOLLOW....
FANG'S MAKING A PLAY FOR THE GEM!
NO! SPINE SHOULD HAVE THE GEM!
LISTEN TO ME! WE CAN TEAR EACH OTHER APART, OR WE CAN COME TOGETHER AND BUILD A BETTER WORLD. I STILL BELIEVE WE CAN BE KUMANDRA AGAIN....
BA!
FSHHHT

KRSHH
NO... NO...
BOOM
DRUUN!
ZMMM
THERE'S STILL MAGIC IN THE GEM PIECES!
GET THE PIECES!

RAYA, YOU HAVE TO LISTEN. YOU ARE THE GUARDIAN OF THE DRAGON GEM.
BA, WHY RE YOU SAYING THIS?
THERE'S STILL LIGHT IN THIS. THERE'S STILL HOPE. RAYA, DON'T GIVE UP ON THEM.
I LOVE YOU, MY DEWDROP.
NO!
BA!

SIX YEARS LATER, IN THE TAIL DESERT...
PLEASE LET THIS BE IT.
SISUDATU... I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE LISTENING. I'VE SEARCHED EVERY RIVER TO FIND YOU. AND NOW I'M HERE AT THE VERY LAST ONE. WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP. I REALLY NEED YOUR HELP.
SISUDATU, I... I JUST REALLY WANT MY BA BACK. PLEASE.

FWOOOOM
SISU. YOU ARE... SISU!
AND YOU'RE... PEOPLE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
RAYA. I'M RAYA.
AND YOU'RE NOT MADE OF STONE, WHICH MEANS... IT WORKED! WE DID IT! YA HEAR THAT, PENGU? I DIDN'T MESS IT UP!

IS THAT FOOD? I WAS SO FOCUSED ON SAVING THE WORLD, I FORGOT TO HAVE BREAKFAST TODAY.
?
TODAY? WHEN EXACTLY DO YOU THINK "TODAY" IS?
TUESDAY?
UH, SISU, THERE ARE A FEW THINGS I NEED TO CATCH YOU UP ON....
RAYA TELLS SISU EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED, AND...
OH, THIS IS BAD. THIS IS BAD. I'VE BEEN ASLEEP FOR FIVE HUNDRED YEARS, YOU BROUGHT BACK THE DRUUN, AND NONE OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS CAME BACK?
ALSO, YOU BROKE THE GEM?!
CAN'T YOU JUST MAKE ANOTHER ONE?
NO, I CAN'T JUST MAKE ANOTHER ONE.... I'M GONNA BE REA WITH YOU, ALL RIGHT? I'M NOT, LIKE, THE BEST DRAGON.
BUT YOU SAVED THE WORLD.

I DID DO THAT. THAT'S TRUE.
UH, YOU'RE GLOWING.
BUT... I WASN'T THE ONE WHO ACTUALLY MADE THE GEM. I JUST... TURNED IT IN.
THIS WAS MY LITTLE SISTER AMBA'S MAGIC. I GOT THE GLOW!
WAIT, WAIT, YOU TOUCHED THIS GEM PIECE, AND IT GAVE YOU POWERS. YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, RIGHT?
I NO LONGER NEED A NIGHT-LIGHT?
WHAT? NO, YOU'RE STILL CONNECTED TO THE GEM'S MAGIC.
... IF WE GET ALL THE OTHER GEM PIECES!
AND THAT MEANS YOU CAN STILL USE IT TO SAVE THE WORLD...

RAYA LEAVES WITH SISU, BUT SOMEONE IS ON HER TRAIL!
WELL, WE DON'T WANT TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.
AFTER THE GEM BROKE, EACH PIECE WAS TAKEN BY ONE OF THE CHIEFS OF THE FIVE LANDS: FANG, HEART, SPINE, TALON, AND TAIL, WHERE WE ARE NOW.
WOW, SO MANY QUESTIONS. FIRST ONE: WHY AM I WEARING THIS?
SO WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THE TAIL CHIEF'S HERE?
THIS PLACE DIDN'T BOOBY-TRAP ITSELF.
I'D SAY WE FOUND THE TAIL CHIEF. FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, SHE WAS HOARDING THE GEM AND BECAME A VICTIM OF HER OWN TRAPS....
WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIRE HE COMMITMENT.

DON'T!
TWO DOWN, THREE TO GO.
POOF
I JUST SHAPE-CHANGED! INTO PEOPLE! THIS WAS MY SISTER PRANEE'S THING!
NOW THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE ME, GETTING THE REST OF THE GEMS IS GONNA BE A BREEZE!
YEAH, WELL, THIS ONE WAS EASY, BUT THE REST OF THEM ARE BEING HELD BY A BUNCH OF NO-GOOD
BINTURI? THAT'S NOT A VERY NICE WAY TO DESCRIBE AN OLD FRIEND.
NAMAARI.

STEALING DRAGON GEM PIECES, ARE WE?
I GOTTA ADMIT, RAYA, UNTIL A FEW MONTHS AGO, I THOUGHT YOU WERE STONE, BUT THEN SOMEONE STOLE FANG'S DRAGON SCROLL....
OH, IS THAT WHY YOU'RE CHASING ME? AND HERE I THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE YOU MISSED ME.
BUT RAYA CUTS THE TRIP WIRE, AND...
THUMP
ARE YOU REALLY LOOKING FOR SISU? WHAT ARE YOU? TWELVE?
TAKE THEM.
FWOOOOSH
RUN!

WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
THAT'S NAMAARI. SHE'S THE BACKSTABBING BINTURI THAT BROKE THE WORLD.
WOW, THOSE CATS ARE REALLY FAST.
WHAT DO CATS AND DRUUN HAVE IN COMMON?
THEY BOTH HATE WATER!
HELLO? IS ANYBODY HERE?
WHAT'S UP, MY NEW CUSTOMERS? I'M CAPTAIN BOUN, THE OWNER, CHEF, AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE SHRIMPORIUM. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
WE NEED TO GET TO TALON. NOW.
TOI! THAT'S A LOTTA JADE!

CLASP ON TO YOUR CONGEE! TODAY'S SPECIAL IS... TO GO!
UH... CAPTAIN BOUN? DOES THIS THING GO ANY FASTER?
DON'T WORRY. I GOT IT!
BYE-BYE, BINTURI!
PLEASE GET OUT OF THERE! SOMEONE COULD SEE YOU. I SAW PEOPLE LOSE THEIR MINDS OVER A DRAGON GEM. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT THEY'D DO OVER AN ACTUAL DRAGON?
YOU HAVE TO STAY HUMAN. PLEASE.
WOW. YOU'VE REALLY GOT SOME TRUS ISSUES.
LOOK, MY FATHER BLINDLY TRUSTED PEOPLE, AND NOW HE'S STONE.

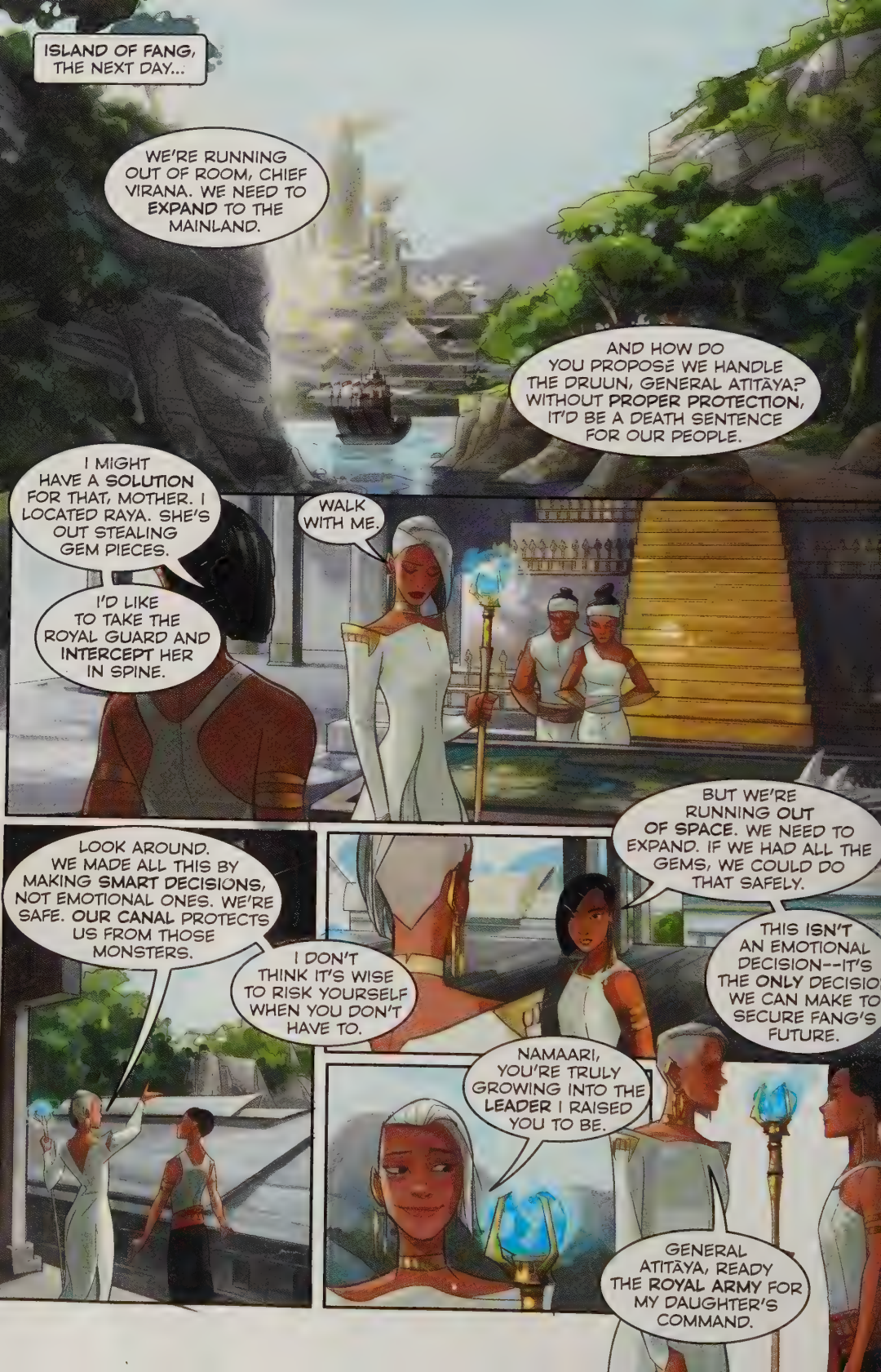
LATER THAT NIGHT, NAMAARI RIDES BACK HOME...
... AS RAYA AND THE OTHERS APPROACH TALON.
WHAT A SMART WAY TO DRUUN-PROOF YOUR HOUSE: BUILD RIGHT ON THE WATER.
YEAH, TALON MAY LOOK NICE... BUT IT'S A HOT SPOT FOR PICKPOCKETS AND CON ARTISTS.
GOTCHA. WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO TURN UP THE CHARM. LET'S GO GET HIM A GIFT!
HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS: I KNOW WHERE THE GEM PIECE IS. THE BAD NEWS...
IT'S BEING HELD BY THE NOTORIOUS CHIEF OF TALON, DANG HAI.
SISU, I THINK MAYBE IT'S SAFER FOR YOU TO STAY HERE ON THE BOAT.
BUT I WANT TO HELP.
I KNOW, AND YOU WILL--BY STAYING SAFE.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER, IN THE TALON NIGHT MARKET...
WAAAAAA!
?
IT'S REALLY LATE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? WHERE ARE YOUR PARENTS?
HISSSS!
WHAT? ONGIS! DROP 'EM!
!
REALLY? A CON BABY!
THIS IS GIVING ME BAD FEELS. CHIEF DANG HAI DOES NOT SOUND LIKE SOMEONE YOU CAN SMOOTH TALK. RAYA DIDN'T EVEN BRING A GIFT.
YOU COULD JUST PUT IT ON CREDIT. IT'S LIKE A PROMISE. YOU TAKE WHAT YOU WANT NOW, AND YOU PROMISE YOU'LL PAY IT BACK LATER.
THAT'S IT. I'M GOING SHOPPING! OH, WAIT... I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY.
WHAT AN AMAZING CONCEPT! THANKS, CAPTAIN BOUN!

MEANWHILE, RAYA AND TUK TUK CORNER THE LITTLE THIEVES...
THANKS. SO, I KNOW IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT USING YOUR BABY CHARM TO RIP PEOPLE OFF IS SUPER SKETCHY.
ACTUALLY... HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO EARN SOME HONEST LOOT?
SO AS THE BABY AND THE ONGIS DISTRACT THE GUARDS...
ALL RIGHT, DANG HAI, I'LL TAKE THAT DRAGON GEM PIECE.
WHOA! I'M NOT DANG HAI! I'M CHAI, THE FLOWER GUY!
WHERE IS DANG HAI?
OVER THERE!
WHAT? WHO HAS HIS DRAGON GEM PIECE?
THE MOST VICIOUS CHIEF TALON HAS EVER SEEN.

AT THE TALON MARKET, SISU JUST GOT IN TROUBLE...
NOW? I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING, BUT... IF I COULD FIND MY GIRL RAYA, SHE HAS A SWORD, TWO DRAGON GEM PIECES--
YOU HAVE NO CREDIT HERE! PAY US RIGHT NOW!
NEE, NEE! GET AWAY FROM HER! CAN'T YOU SEE SHE'S NEW IN TOWN?
I JUST WANTED TO BRING SOME GIFTS TO THE TALON CHIEF, DANG HAI.
IS THAT WHO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR DEAR? I KNOW EXACTL WHERE HE IS.
BUT ONCE THEY REACH THE JUNGLE OUTSIDE THE CITY...
NOW YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND THOSE OTHER DRAGON GEM PIECES, OR... I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE YOU OUTSIDE WITH THAT... THING.
BUT I TRUSTED YOU.
SISU!

I TOLD YOU TO STAY ON THE BOAT!
RAYA!
HOLD ON TO THIS FOR ME, WILL YA, SISU?
THE TALON GEM PIECE GIVES SISU ANOTHER POWER... FOG!
WOOOOM
FOG?!
YEAH, THAT WAS MY BROTHER JAGAN'S MAGIC.
BACK AT THE SHRIMP BOAT...
THANKS FOR THE NEW CUSTOMERS!
YEAH, I SORTA PROMISED TO BUY THEM ALL THE CONGEE THEY COULD EAT....


ISLAND OF FANG, THE NEXT DAY...
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF ROOM, CHIEF VIRANA. WE NEED TO EXPAND TO THE MAINLAND.
AND HOW DO YOU PROPOSE WE HANDLE THE DRUUN, GENERAL ATITĀYA? WITHOUT PROPER PROTECTION, IT'D BE A DEATH SENTENCE FOR OUR PEOPLE.
I MIGHT HAVE A SOLUTION FOR THAT, MOTHER. I LOCATED RAYA. SHE'S OUT STEALING GEM PIECES.
I'D LIKE TO TAKE THE ROYAL GUARD AND INTERCEPT HER IN SPINE.
WALK WITH ME.
BUT WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF SPACE. WE NEED TO EXPAND. IF WE HAD ALL THE GEMS, WE COULD DO THAT SAFELY.
THIS ISN'T AN EMOTIONAL DECISION--IT'S THE ONLY DECISIO WE CAN MAKE TO SECURE FANG'S FUTURE.
LOOK AROUND. WE MADE ALL THIS BY MAKING SMART DECISIONS, NOT EMOTIONAL ONES. WE'RE SAFE. OUR CANAL PROTECTS US FROM THOSE MONSTERS.
I DON'T THINK IT'S WISE TO RISK YOURSELF WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
NAMAARI, YOU'RE TRULY GROWING INTO THE LEADER I RAISED YOU TO BE.
GENERAL ATITĀYA, READY THE ROYAL ARMY FOR MY DAUGHTER'S COMMAND.

ALONG THE KUMANDRAN RIVER...
BEING PEOPLE IS HARD. YOU HAVE SMALL HEADS, NO TAILS. YOU LIE TO GET WHAT YOU WANT. LIKE THE TALON CHIEF BACK THERE.
YEAH, WELL, THE WORLD'S BROKEN. YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYONE.
OR MAYBE THE WORLD IS BROKEN BECAUSE YOU DON'T TRUST ANYONE.
YOU SOUND JUST LIKE MY BA. I REALLY WANTED TO BELIEVE HIM. I REALLY WANTED TO BELIEVE WE COULD BE KUMANDRA AGAIN.
AND WE CAN.
LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE TURNED TO STONE WOULD ARGUE OTHERWISE. WANNA KNOW WHY OTHER DRAGONS DIDN'T COME BACK?
BECAUSE PEOPLE DON'T DESERVE THEM.
THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULDN'T TRY.
I AM DONE TRYING. KUMANDRA IS A FAIRY TALE.
UH... I THINK WE'RE IN SPINE.
SISU!!!
SPLASH

SISU! COME BACK! PLEASE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU YOU'RE WRONG!
BY PROVING TO YOU THAT IF YOU WANT TO GET SOMEONE'S TRUST, YOU HAVE TO GIVE A LITTLE TRUST FIRST.
SISU, DON'T!
WHUP
LATER...
!
YOU TWO MUST BE DUNG OF BRAIN TO THINK YOU COULD STEAL SPINE'S DRAGON GEM.
HE-HE. IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST PEERED INTO THE EYES OF A TREMBLING ENEMY.

WHERE HAS THE TIME GONE? IT'S BEEN SO LONG....
HE SEEMS LONELY....
CRACK
FANG'S HERE.
WHAT?
PEOPLE OF SPINE, WE ARE HUNTING FOR RAYA, A FUGITIVE FROM HEART. SEND HER OUT, OR WE'RE COMING IN!

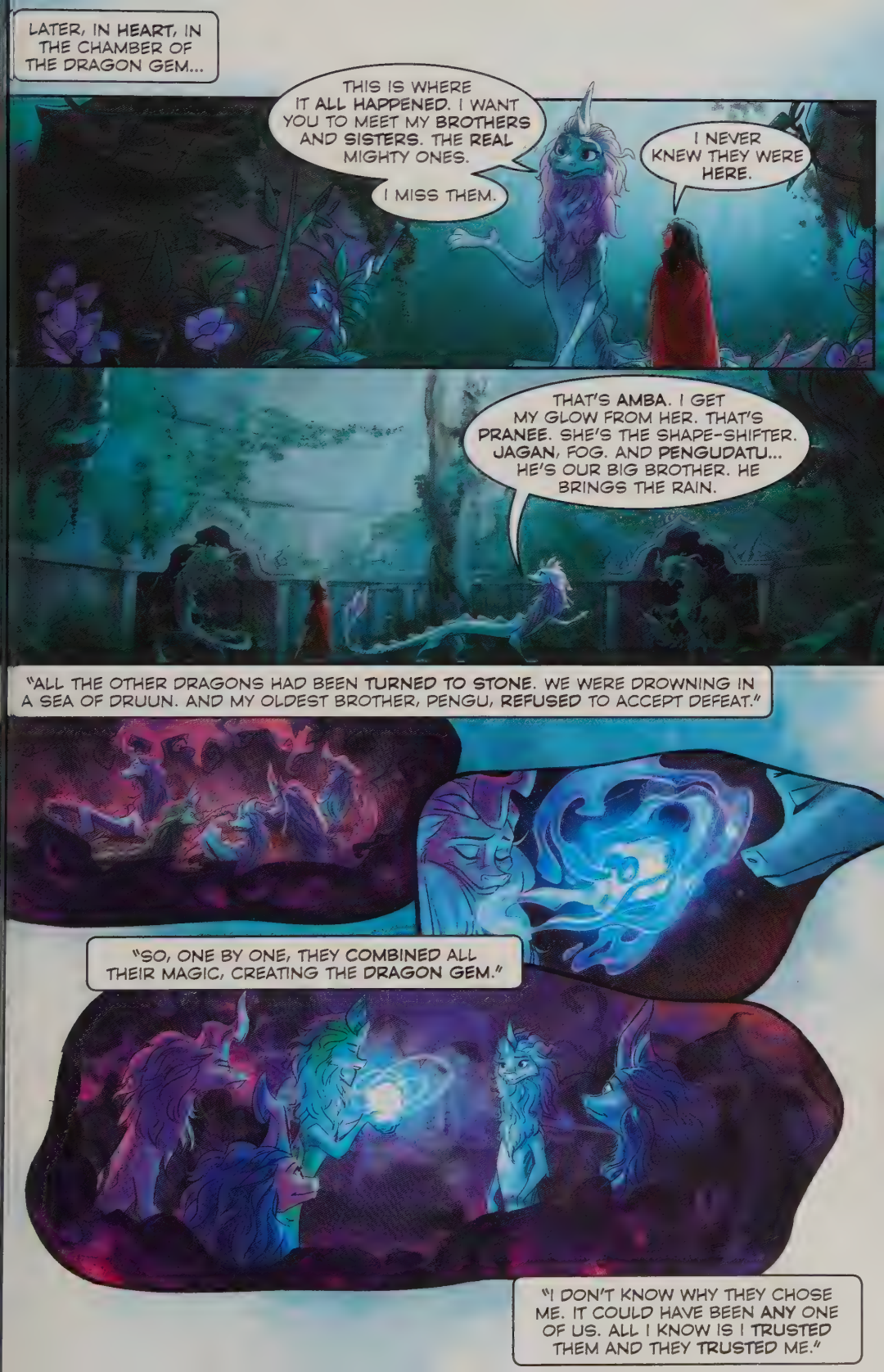
RIGHT THEN, RAYA AND THE OTHERS FIND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT SPINE...
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE HERE?
OKAY, FANG'S HERE FOR ME, NOT FOR YOU. IF I CAN DISTRACT THEM, YOU GUYS CAN GET OUT OF HERE.
MY PEOPLE BATTLED THE DRUUN WITH MUCH VALOR... BUT LOST.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
THE MONIKER GIVEN TO ME IS TONG.
OKAY, TONG, YOU DON'T KNOW ME, I DON'T KNOW YOU. BUT IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT THAT MY FRIENDS STAY SAFE.
SO I AM SINCERELY ASKING YOU: WILL YOU HELP ME? PLEASE.
WITH A NOD, TONG AGREES...

SO...
YOU AND THOSE DRAGON GEM PIECES ARE COMING WITH ME.
MY SWORD HERE SAYS WE'RE NOT.
WHY ARE YOU STEALING GEM PIECES?
I'M TRYING TO GET A MATCHING SET. YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO BRING FANG'S GEM, DID YOU?
THUD
SWIIISH
THUD
!
I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS....
?
!
WOOOM

YEP.
SHE'S A DRAGON.
LET'S GO!

ONCE SAFE...
WHY ARE YOU HERE, DIVINE WATER DRAGON?
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS, BIG GUY? MY GIRL RAYA AND I ARE GONNA FIX THE WORLD, BRING EVERYONE BACK.
WELL... WE'RE TRYING TO BRING EVERYONE BACK, AT LEAST.
YOU'RE GONNA BRING EVERYONE BACK? CAN I HELP?
I, TOO, WISH TO JOIN THIS FELLOWSHIP OF DRUUN-KICKERY.
AS TONG HANDS SISU THE SPINE GEM PIECE...
RAIN STARTS TO FALL, AND SISU TAKES OFF INTO THE SKY, RIDING ON RAINDROPS!

THE NEXT DAY...
THE LAST GEM PIECE IS IN FANG--THE MOST HEAVILY GUARDED OF THE FIVE LANDS....
BUT SISU DOESN'T WANT TO STEAL FANG'S GEM PIECE. SHE WANTS TO ASK NAMAARI TO HELP THEM SAVE THE WORLD...
IF WE'RE JUST HONEST WITH HER, DEEP DOWN, I GOT A FEELING SHE WANTS TO FIX THE WORLD AS BADLY AS WE DO.
YOU WEREN'T THERE WHEN NAMAARI BETRAYED ME. WE'RE STICKING WITH MY PLAN.
COME ON. I NEED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?


LATER, IN HEART, IN THE CHAMBER OF THE DRAGON GEM...
THIS IS WHERE IT ALL HAPPENED. I WANT YOU TO MEET MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS. THE REAL MIGHTY ONES.
I MISS THEM.
I NEVER KNEW THEY WERE HERE.
THAT'S AMBA. I GET MY GLOW FROM HER. THAT'S PRANEE. SHE'S THE SHAPE-SHIFTER. JAGAN, FOG. AND PENGUDATU... HE'S OUR BIG BROTHER. HE BRINGS THE RAIN.
"ALL THE OTHER DRAGONS HAD BEEN TURNED TO STONE. WE WERE DROWNING IN A SEA OF DRUUN. AND MY OLDEST BROTHER, PENGU, REFUSED TO ACCEPT DEFEAT."
"SO, ONE BY ONE, THEY COMBINED ALL THEIR MAGIC, CREATING THE DRAGON GEM."
"I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY CHOSE ME. IT COULD HAVE BEEN ANY ONE OF US. ALL I KNOW IS I TRUSTED THEM AND THEY TRUSTED ME."

WHEN THEY PUT THEIR FAITH IN ME, IT EMPOWERED ME BEYOND ANYTHING I COULD IMAGINE.
THE SAME CAN HAPPEN WITH NAMAARI.
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE THAT. I ONCE THOUGHT WE COULD BE FRIENDS.
EVEN IF SHE WANTED TO HELP US, HOW COULD WE POSSIBLY TRUST HER?
BUT IF SOMEHOW YOU COULD, YOU WOULDN'T JUST BRING YOUR BA BACK--YOU'D ALSO BRING BACK HIS DREAM. KUMANDRA.
RAYA TAKES SISU TO HER FATHER, WHO IS STILL STONE...
YOU REMIND ME OF HIM.
STRONG, GOOD-LOOKING, WITH IMPECCABLE HAIR?
HOPEFUL.
HOW WOULD I EVEN APPROACH NAMAARI AFTER ALL THAT'S HAPPENED?
IT MAY FEEL IMPOSSIBLE. BUT SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP, EVEN BEFORE YOU'RE READY. TRUST ME.
OKAY. WE'LL GO WITH YOUR PLAN.
ALL RIGHT! YOU'RE NOT GONNA REGRET THIS.
BUT WE'RE GONNA NEED A REALLY GOOD GIFT!
ACTUALLY, I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO GIVE HER.

MOTHER, YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAW.
YOU SAW A DRAGON. GENERAL ATITĀYA INFORMED ME THAT YOU'D BE RETURNING HOME WITHOUT THE GEM PIECES.
IT WAS SISU. SHE CAN FIX WHAT WE BROKE. SHE CAN BRING EVERYONE BACK.
AND THAT'S WHAT SCARES ME.
WHEN EVERYONE COMES BACK, WHO DO YOU THINK THEY'LL COME FOR? YOU FORGET, THE OTHER LANDS BLAME US FOR WHAT'S HAPPENED.
RAYA ISN'T JUST GOING TO GIVE SISU TO US.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE HER A CHOICE.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
BUT IF WE HAD THE DRAGON AND THE GEM PIECES, WE WOULD BE FORGIVEN. WE COULD SAVE THE WORLD. MORE IMPORTANTLY, OUR PEOPLE WOULD REMAIN SAFE.
THAT'S NO LONGER YOUR CONCERN, MY LOVE. YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.

THAT NIGHT, THE ONGIS DELIVER A MESSAGE TO NAMAARI.
IT'S THE DRAGON PENDANT SHE GAVE RAYA SIX YEARS AGO...
A FEW MOMENTS LATER, NAMAARI AGREES TO MEET HER ENEMIES...
I SEE YOU GOT MY GIFT.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE IT AGAIN.
AND THEN...
THE FINAL PIECE.
TIME TO BRING EVERYONE BACK.
CLICK

SISU AND THE GEM PIECES ARE COMING WITH ME.
NAMAARI, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS.
STAY BACK!
IT WAS FOOLISH TO GIVE TRUST TO SOMEONE FROM FANG.
I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYBODY... YOU JUST WANT A BETTER WORLD. LIKE WE ALL DO.
SISU...
I TRUST YOU, NAMAARI.
CLICK
FSHHHT

SISU!
NO!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I DON'T KNOW. IT APPEARS THAT WITH THE LAST DRAGON GONE, SO, TOO, GOES THE WATER.
NOW THERE IS NOTHING TO STOP THE DRUUN.

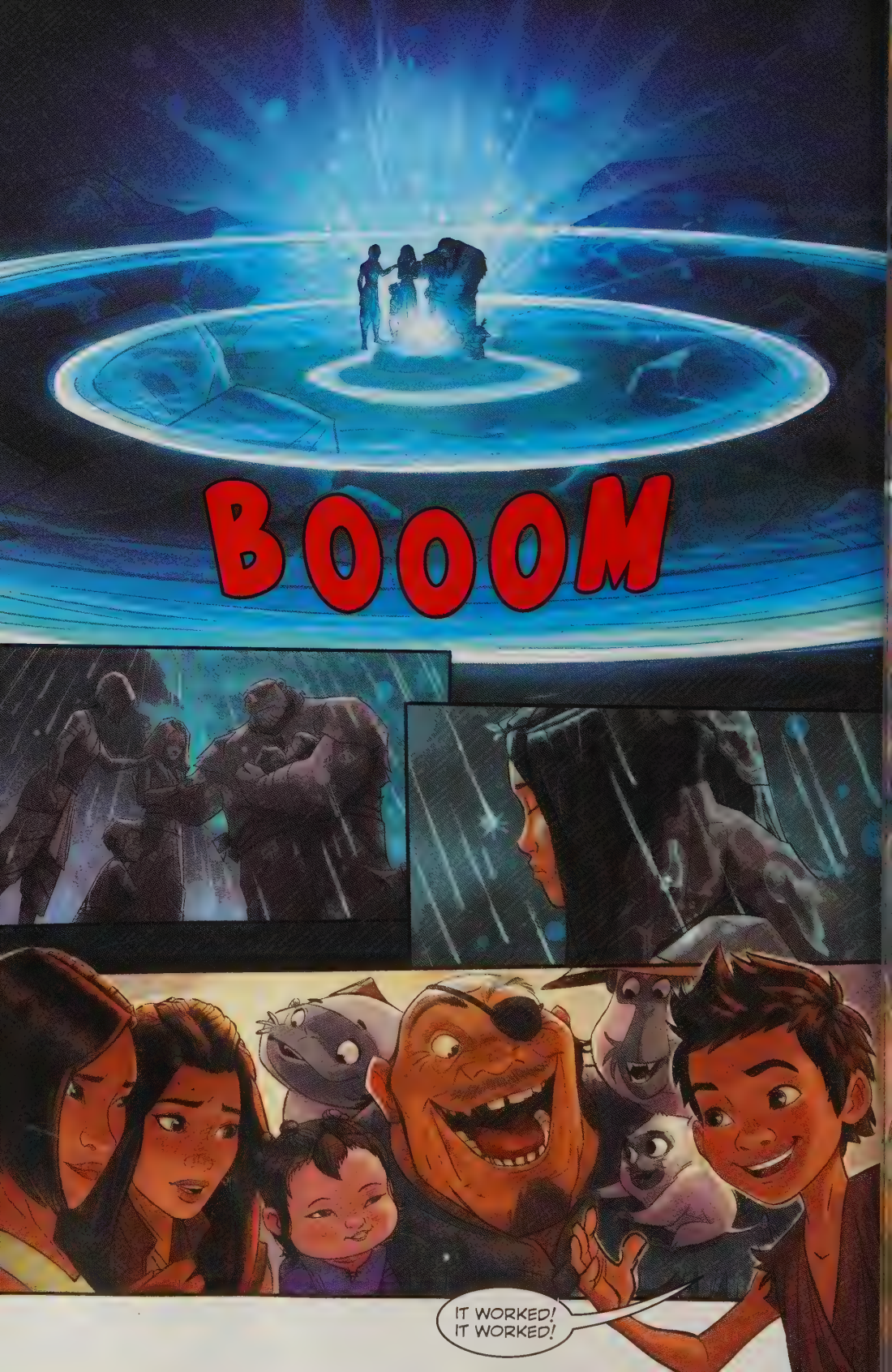
RAYA... WHERE IS RAYA?
NAMAARI!
LET'S FINISH THIS, BINTURI!
CLANG

THE GEM'S POWERS ARE FADING. ALL THESE PEOPLE ARE DRUUN FOOD IF WE DON'T GET THEM OUT.
I NEVER MEANT FOR ANY OF THIS TO HAPPEN.
LIAR!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU BELIEVE ME. SISU DID. BUT YOU DIDN'T TRUST HER. THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE.
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, BUT YOU ARE AS MUCH TO BLAME FOR SISU'S DEATH AS I AM.
TONG, THERE'S STILL PEOPLE BACK THERE!
?

?
OKAY, TUK TUK. THESE ARE THE LAST OF THEM. GO!
TUK TUK!
ZMMM

KRR-THOOOM
WHY AREN'T THEY BACKING OFF?
?
THE GEM'S MAGIC IS ALMOST GONE!
ALL I KNOW IS I TRUSTED THEM AND THEY TRUSTED ME.
EVERYONE, GIVE ME YOUR GEMS! WE CAN STILL PUT IT TOGETHER. IT CAN STILL WORK!
SISU'S GONE, RAYA. WE DON'T HAVE HER MAGIC.

IT'S NOT ABOUT MAGIC. IT'S ABOUT TRUST!
THAT'S WHY IT WORKED. THAT'S WHY WE CAN STILL DO IT, BY DOING THE ONE THING SISU WANTED US TO DO--WHAT MY BA WANTED US TO DO--TO FINALLY TRUST EACH OTHER AND FIX THIS.
AFTER WHAT SHE'S DONE...
WE'LL NEVER TRUST HER!
THEN LET ME TAKE THE FIRST STEP.
KNOWING IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO, THEY ALL HAND THEIR GEM PIECES TO NAMAARI AND ARE TURNED TO STONE...


BOOOM
IT WORKED!
IT WORKED!

AS EVERYONE CELEBRATES...
... THE WATER RETURNS...
... AND SO DO THE DRAGONS!
RAYA AND SISU ARE REUNITED.

AND THEN, IN HEART...
BA!
DEWDROP!
CHIEF BENJA, YOUR DAUGHTER DID YOU PROUD.
HOPE YOU DON'T MIND... SHE BROUGHT SOME FRIENDS....
BA, WELCOME TO... KUMANDRA.
THE END

"MAYBE THE **WORLD** IS **BROKEN** BECAUSE YOU DON'T **TRUST ANYONE.**"

—*SISUDATU*

"IT'S NOT ABOUT **MAGIC**.
IT'S ABOUT TRUST!"

—RAYA

FANG
HEART
TALO

SPINE
TAIL

RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

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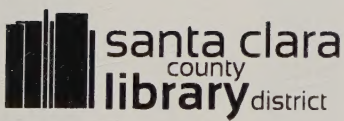

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